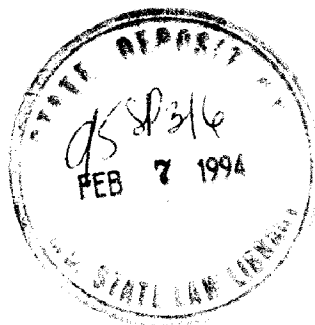


IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND

IN RE: CERTIFICATION OF NEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL

JUDGESHIIPS FOR FISCAL 1996



TO: The President of the Senate
The Speaker of the House

FROM: Robert C. Murphy, Chief Judge

DATE: December 21, 1994

Handwritten on left margin: 1/21/1994



ROBERT C. MURPHY
CHIEF JUDGE
COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND
COURTS OF APPEAL BUILDING
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

December 21, 1994

Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
Speaker of the House
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: Judgeship Needs for Fiscal Year 1996

Gentlemen:

In accordance with established procedure, I am herewith submitting my Annual Certification of Need for Additional Judgeships for Fiscal Year 1996. As the data indicates, a compelling need is demonstrated for at least one additional Circuit Court judge in Carroll, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's, and Washington Counties.

In my FY 1993 Certification of Needs for Additional Judgeships, I recognized the then difficult budgetary constraints on the creation of new judgeships and did not, therefore, request funding for any of the eight additional judgeships for which I certified an existing need. I said that we would utilize retired judges to fill the "gaps" in our judicial manpower to the extent that funds for this purpose were made available for expenditure. While some funds were appropriated for this purpose, they did not permit full utilization of the retired judge corps to maintain our dockets in a reasonably current condition.

In my FY 1994 Certification of Needs for Additional Judgeships, I demonstrated a statistical need for Circuit Court judgeships in Calvert, Cecil, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties, and in Baltimore City. Recognizing the State's continuing budgetary problems, I limited by requests to full-year judgeship funding for Cecil, Calvert, and Frederick Counties, and Baltimore City, and for one

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District Court judgeship in Montgomery County. The General Assembly authorized but two judgeships with full-year funding, i.e., Baltimore City and Calvert County. Additionally, Circuit Court judgeships in Cecil and Frederick Counties were authorized but delayed until January 1, 1995.

In my FY 1995 Certification of Needs for Additional Judgeships, I again recognized the State's continuing fiscal difficulties and, therefore, did not request the ten additional judgeships for which I certified a need. I again limited my request to full-year funding for one additional Circuit Court judgeship in Harford, Prince George's, and Howard Counties and one-half year funding for Charles County. Additionally, I requested full-year funding for a new District Court judgeship in Montgomery County to assist in the adjudication and disposition of juvenile matters. At that time, I said that we would utilize retired judges to the extent that funds were available through appropriation. The General Assembly authorized these five additional judgeships but implementation was delayed until February 1, 1995.

In light of the Judiciary's other needs and the uncertain financial situation confronting the State, I am limiting my requests for FY 1996 to full-year funding of an additional Circuit Court judgeship in Montgomery County. I am advised that the governmental authorities in Montgomery County are committed to providing the necessary courthouse space and support staff to complement the new judgeships.

Although a statistical need is indicated for new Circuit Court judgeships in Carroll, Prince George's, St. Mary's and Washington Counties, the availability of adequate space, as well as other factors preclude moving forward at this time. While the First and Second Judicial Circuits reflect a statistical need for at least one additional judge on a circuit-wide basis, a number of retired judges residing on the Eastern Shore are now available for recall and can temper, in the short term, our existing need for judges in those jurisdictions. Baltimore City still labors under the weight of all the asbestos litigation in the State, as well as an increasing volume of lead paint cases. Several courts dispersed throughout the State are approaching case levels that may require additional judgeships in the very near future. Finally, this certification does not reflect the amount of judicial resources needed if the General Assembly legislatively moves to create family divisions within the circuit courts.

For your information, the present complement of judges is as follows:

Court of Appeals	7
Court of Special Appeals	13
Circuit Court	125
District Court	97

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THE CIRCUIT COURTS

Total filings in the circuit courts have risen 17.1 percent between Fiscal Year 1990 and Fiscal Year 1994. The greatest change over the past five years occurred in civil case filings, with a 21.8 percent increase. Domestic-related cases appear to have influenced the increase in civil case filings. Fiscal Year 1990 represented 67,028 domestic-related cases, whereas, 83,826 domestic related cases were reported for Fiscal Year 1994, a 25.1 percent increase.

Criminal and juvenile case filings have increased 14.1 percent and 5.7 percent over the five-year period, respectively. The rise in criminal filings between Fiscal Year 1990 and Fiscal Year 1994 was influenced by the increase in indictment and criminal information filings, a 25.4 percent increase. For juvenile case filings, the reporting of delinquency cases rose 13.9 percent, while C.I.N.A. cases increased by 11.5 percent for the same time frame.

CIRCUIT-BY-CIRCUIT ANALYSIS

First Circuit

The southern most tip of the Eastern Shore of Maryland -- Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties -- form the First Judicial Circuit. Population in that region is expected to approximate 173,600 by July 1, 1995. That figure represents an influx of more than 28,000 residents since 1980.

The First Circuit reported 11,096 total filings during Fiscal Year 1994, a slight decrease of less than 2 percent from the previous fiscal year when 11,296 filings were reported. The reported decrease, which was the first decrease in nearly ten years, can be attributed to a 5.6 percent decrease in civil filings. Over the last five fiscal years, overall filings have increased by approximately 24 percent, from 8,947 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the current level of 11,096 total filings. During the five-year period, increases occurred in each of the three functional areas -- civil, criminal, and juvenile. The greatest increase was reported in criminal filings, from 2,880 filings in Fiscal Year 1990 to 3,655 filings in Fiscal Year 1994, an increase of 26.9 percent. Juvenile filings increased by 23.5 percent, from 792 to the current level of 978 filings. Civil filings also increased by 22.5 percent, from 5,275 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 6,463 in Fiscal Year 1994. An increase of nearly 32 percent in jury trial prayers over the last five years contributed most significantly to the overall increase reported in criminal filings. Indictment and information filings also increased by 11.4 percent during the five-year period. The increase in juvenile filings can be attributed to the 37.1 percent increase in delinquency cases filed since Fiscal Year 1990, from 517 to the current level of 709 delinquency filings. Domestic-related filings increased by

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30.1 percent, over the five-year period, from 3,596 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 4,677 in Fiscal Year 1994, contributing to the overall increase in civil filings during the five-year period.

Somerset County ranks fifth in filings per judge (2,026) and fourth in dispositions per judge (1,927).

Second Circuit

The Second Circuit reported an increase of 8.7 percent in total filings during the last five fiscal years, from 9,238 to the current level of 10,041 total filings. Contributing most significantly to that increase has been a 12.2 percent increase in civil filings, from 5,773 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 6,479 in Fiscal Year 1994. The greatest increase in civil filings occurred in domestic-related cases. There were 559 additional domestic-related cases filed from Fiscal Year 1990 (4,084) to Fiscal Year 1994 (4,643), representing an increase of 13.7 percent. A rather substantial increase was also reported in "other" civil filings, from 822 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 1,159 in Fiscal Year 1994, an increase of 41 percent. During the five-year period, the Second Circuit also experienced a slight increase in criminal case filings, from 2,200 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 2,299 in Fiscal Year 1994. A 20.1 percent decrease in indictment and information filings (from 1,002 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 801 in Fiscal Year 1994), coupled with a 28.2 percent increase in jury trial prayers (from 989 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 1,268 in Fiscal Year 1994) contributed to the slight increase. Juvenile filings remained relatively consistent during the five-year period. During Fiscal Year 1990, there were 1,265 total juvenile filings, compared to 1,263 filings during Fiscal Year 1994.

Talbot County ranks ninth in both filings per judge (1,668) and dispositions per judge (1,640). Cecil County ranks third in the average disposition time of a criminal case (157 days), while Caroline County ranks fifth (142 days), and Kent County ranks seventh (140 days).

Third Circuit

The Third Judicial Circuit is comprised of Baltimore and Harford Counties. Population in that region of the State continues to increase steadily. It is projected that by July 1, 1995, there will be 918,900 people residing in the Third Circuit, an increase of approximately 14.6 percent since 1980. Baltimore County ranks third in population per judge, while Harford County ranks eighth.

Over the last five fiscal years, total filings in the Third Circuit have fluctuated with an overall decrease during the five-year period of 0.5 percent. There was a combined total of 33,537 filings reported by Baltimore and Harford Counties during Fiscal Year 1994, an increase

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of 2.2 percent over the previous fiscal year when 32,815 filings were reported. Baltimore County reported 26,500 total filings, an increase of 4.1 percent over the 25,455 filings reported during Fiscal Year 1993. Increases were reported in all three functional areas in Baltimore County, contributing to the overall increase reported by that jurisdiction. The greatest increase occurred in juvenile filings (8.9 percent), from 3,556 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 3,872 in Fiscal Year 1994. Criminal case filings followed, increasing by 7.7 percent (from 6,801 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 7,328 in Fiscal Year 1994), while civil filings increased by 1.3 percent (from 15,098 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 15,300 in Fiscal Year 1994). The increase in juvenile filings can be attributed to a 9.3 percent increase in delinquency cases, while a 17.7 percent increase in requests for jury trials emanating from the District Court contributed to the increase in criminal filings. For the second consecutive year, Harford County reported a decrease of 4.4 percent, from 7,360 in Fiscal Year 1993 to the current level of 7,037 filings. Harford County reported decreases in each of the three casetypes -- civil, criminal, and juvenile. Criminal filings decreased by 10.3 percent, while juvenile and civil filings decreased by 1.4 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively. An 11.3 percent decrease in jury trial prayers contributed to the decrease reported in criminal filings. Since Fiscal Year 1990, jury trial prayers have decreased by 25.8 percent in Harford County.

Harford County ranks fourth in disposition of criminal cases (145 days), while Baltimore County ranks twenty-fourth (80 days). Additionally, Baltimore County ranks eighth in filings per judge (1,767) and fourth in pending cases per judge (2,085). Harford County ranks seventh in pending cases per judge (1,682).

Fourth Circuit

The western most corner of the State houses the Fourth Judicial Circuit -- Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties. Overall population in the Fourth Circuit is projected to approximate 228,600 by July 1, 1995, an increase of 3.4 percent since 1980. Allegany County is the only jurisdiction expected to experience a decrease in the Fourth Circuit.

During Fiscal Year 1994, total filings continued to fluctuate which has been the trend over the last five years. There has been a 19.4 percent increase reported in total filings since Fiscal Year 1990 when 8,832 filings were reported. During Fiscal Year 1994, 10,544 total filings were reported. Increases have occurred in two of the three functional areas. Civil case filings increased most significantly, 24.1 percent, from 5,486 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 6,808 in Fiscal Year 1994.

A 34.3 percent increase in domestic-related filings (3,388 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 4,550 in Fiscal Year 1994) contributed to that increase. Criminal filings have also increased during the five-year period, from 2,195 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the current level of 2,601 criminal filings,

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an increase of 18.5 percent. Contributing to the increase in criminal filings has been a 47.2 percent increase in jury trial prayers since Fiscal Year 1990, from 1,119 to the current level of 1,647 filings. The only decrease over the five-year period, however slight, occurred in juvenile filings. There has been a 1.4 percent decrease in juvenile case filings since Fiscal Year 1990, from 1,151 to the present level of 1,135 filings.

Allegany County reported the longest disposition time for civil cases (246 days) during Fiscal Year 1994 and the eighth longest disposition time for criminal cases (138 days). Washington County reported the ninth longest time for disposing criminal cases (138 days).

Fifth Circuit

The Fifth Judicial Circuit is comprised of Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties. With respect to population growth, the Fifth Circuit is projected to be the second fastest growing area in the State. It is projected that total population in that region will reach nearly 815,000 by July 1, 1995. With nine judges, Anne Arundel County ranks second in population per judge, while Carroll County ranks fourth with three judges. Howard County has five judges and ranks fifth in population per judge.

The Fifth Circuit has reported an overall increase of 25.2 percent in total filings since Fiscal Year 1990, from 31,675 to the Fiscal Year 1994 level of 39,671 total filings. Increases in each of the functional areas contributed to the reported increase. Civil filings increased by 37.4 percent, from 17,443 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 23,962 in Fiscal Year 1994. Contributing to that increase is the 51.4 percent increase that has occurred in domestic-related filings (9,711 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 14,707 in Fiscal Year 1994). Juvenile filings followed, increasing by more than 21 percent, from 4,629 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 5,612 in Fiscal Year 1994.

Since Fiscal Year 1990, delinquency filings have increased by 38.8 percent, from 3,315 to the Fiscal Year 1994 level of 4,600 filings, contributing to the reported increase. The increase reported in criminal case filings was not as significant. There were 9,603 criminal filings reported in Fiscal Year 1990, compared to 10,097 in Fiscal Year 1994, an increase of 5.1 percent. One contributing factor to the comparatively slight increase in criminal filings is the 24.6 percent decline in requests for jury trials, from 4,735 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the current level of 3,572 jury trial prayers. A 59.6 percent decrease in requests for jury trials in Anne Arundel County over the last five years (from 2,045 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 827 in Fiscal Year 1994) contributed to that decrease. The decrease in jury trial prayers coupled with a 32 percent increase in indictment and information filings, from 4,065 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 5,366 in Fiscal Year 1994, resulted in the overall increase in criminal filings in the Fifth Circuit during the five-year period.

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Anne Arundel County ranks first in both filings per judge (2,929) and dispositions per judge (2,788). Carroll County ranks second in dispositions per judge (2,021). Additionally, Howard County reported the second longest disposition time of civil cases (242 days), while Anne Arundel County reported the fifth longest (214 days), and Carroll County reported the sixth longest disposition time of civil cases (213 days).

Sixth Circuit

Frederick and Montgomery Counties form the Sixth Judicial Circuit. With a projected July 1, 1995 population of 1,004,800, the Sixth Circuit continues to be the fastest growing region of the State. Since 1980, population in the Sixth Circuit has increased by nearly 45 percent. Montgomery County ranks first in population per judge and Frederick County ranks seventh.

The Sixth Circuit reported its first decrease in total filings since Fiscal Year 1991. There were 40,246 total filings reported during Fiscal Year 1994, a decrease of 7.4 percent from the 43,480 filings reported during Fiscal Year 1993. A 8.6 percent decrease in filings reported by Montgomery County (38,325 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 35,027 in Fiscal Year 1994) contributed to the overall decrease. Montgomery County reported decreases in both civil (5.9 percent) and criminal filings (22.5 percent). In the civil area, a 27.1 percent decrease in contract filings (from 8,523 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 6,212 in Fiscal Year 1994), contributed to the overall decrease. With respect to criminal case filings, the overall decrease can be attributed to a 23.7 percent decrease in indictment and information filings (from 2,959 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 2,257 in Fiscal Year 1994), as well as a 30.1 percent decline in requests for jury trials (from 2,093 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 1,464 in Fiscal Year 1994). Frederick County reported increases of 6.7 percent in both civil and juvenile filings, while criminal filings decreased by 11.2 percent. A 13.4 percent decrease in jury trial prayers contributed to the decrease reported in criminal filings.

Montgomery County ranks seventh in filings per judge (1,848) and fifth in dispositions per judge (1,786). Frederick County ranks second in disposition of criminal cases (160 days), third in disposition of juvenile cases (84 days), and fourth in disposition of civil cases (225 days).

Seventh Circuit

The Seventh Judicial Circuit is comprised of the counties located in the southern portion of the State -- Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties. With 1,037,900 inhabitants expected by July 1, 1995, the Seventh Circuit is the most populous region of the State. Since 1980, the Seventh Circuit has experienced an influx of more than 205,000 new residents.

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Total filings have increased by approximately 10.9 percent over the last five fiscal years, from 49,807 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the current level of 55,213 filings. An increase occurred in just one of the three functional areas during the five-year period. Civil case filings increased by 22.2 percent, while juvenile and criminal filings decreased by 10 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively. There were 29,546 civil filings reported during Fiscal Year 1990, compared to 36,114 filings in Fiscal Year 1994. Contributing to the increase in civil filings was the 27.6 percent increase reported in domestic-related cases, from 19,314 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the current level of 24,646 filings. With respect to the decrease reported in juvenile filings, delinquency cases have decreased by 16 percent since Fiscal Year 1990, from 6,620 to the Fiscal Year 1994 level of 5,561 filings. The decrease in criminal filings can be attributed to a 15.6 percent reduction in requests for jury trials over the last five years, from 5,311 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 4,484 in Fiscal Year 1994. Over the same period of time, indictment and information filings increased by 6.5 percent, from 5,872 to the current level of 6,256 filings.

Prince George's County ranks third in both filings per judge (2,131) and dispositions per judges (1,948), while St. Mary's County ranks sixth in filings per judge (1,990), as well as in dispositions per judge (1,749).

Charles County reported the longest disposition time of criminal cases (162 days) and the fifth longest disposition time of juvenile cases (82 days). Calvert County ranks fourth in disposition of juvenile cases (82 days).

Eighth Circuit

The Eighth Judicial Circuit of Maryland is comprised solely of Baltimore City. Population in that circuit is expected to decrease to 718,800 by July 1, 1995, representing a decrease of nearly 68,000 people or 8.6 percent since 1980.

There has been a 21.6 percent increase in total filings in the Eighth Circuit since Fiscal Year 1990, from 52,858 to the current level of 64,278 filings. Increases have occurred in two of the three functional areas. The greatest increase, 82.5 percent was reported in criminal filings, from 12,699 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the Fiscal Year 1994 level of 23,174 filings. Contributing most significantly to the reported increase is the 68.2 percent increase in indictment and information filings. There were 8,405 filings reported in the aforementioned category during Fiscal Year 1990, compared to 14,136 in Fiscal Year 1994. Additionally, jury trial prayers have increased by 5.7 percent since Fiscal Year 1990, from 4,061 to the current level of 4,293 filings. Juvenile filings have increased by 11.2 percent over the last five fiscal years, from 14,919 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 16,593 in Fiscal Year 1994. Contributing most significantly to that increase is the 36.5 percent increase in C.I.N.A. filings, from 3,139 in Fiscal Year 1990 to the current level of 4,285 filings. Delinquency filings increased by 6.2 percent during the five-year period,

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from 11,538 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 12,254 in Fiscal Year 1994. The only area in which a decrease occurred was in civil filings. There was a 2.9 percent decrease reported in that case-type, from 25,240 during Fiscal Year 1990 to the Fiscal Year 1994 level of 24,511 filings.

With respect to other workload factors, Baltimore City ranks second in filings per judge (2,382) and seventh in dispositions per judges (1,711). In addition, Baltimore City reported the second longest disposition time for juvenile cases (88 days) and the third longest disposition time of civil cases (227 days).

THE DISTRICT COURT

Introduction

The District Court of Maryland was created by a constitutional amendment ratified in 1970. Operation of the District Court began on July 5, 1971, replacing a miscellaneous system of people's and municipal courts and trial magistrates with a court of record possessing Statewide jurisdiction.

District Court judges are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Their terms are not subject to retention elections. The first Chief Judge was designated by the Governor, however, authority for subsequent appointments has been vested in the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The District Court is divided into twelve geographical districts, each containing one or more political subdivisions, with at least one judge in each subdivision.

As of July 1, 1993, there were 97 District Court judgeships, including the Chief Judge position. The Chief Judge serves as the administrative head of the Court and appoints administrative judges for each of the twelve districts, subject to the approval of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The Chief Judge of the District Court also appoints the Chief Clerk of the Court, as well as administrative clerks for each district and commissioners, who are responsible for issuing arrest warrants and setting bail or collateral.

The District Court's jurisdiction encompasses civil and criminal (including motor vehicle offenses) matters. In Montgomery County, it also has jurisdiction over juvenile causes. Generally, the District Court exercises exclusive jurisdiction in all landlord and tenant cases; replevin actions; motor vehicle violations; criminal cases in which the penalty is less than three years imprisonment or does not exceed a fine of \$2,500, or both; and civil cases involving amounts not exceeding \$2,500. It has concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit courts in civil matters involving matters over \$2,500, but not exceeding \$20,000; and concurrent jurisdiction in misdemeanors and certain felonies. Cases are transferred to the circuit courts whenever jury trials are elected.

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Motor Vehicle

During Fiscal Year 1994, 804,247 motor vehicle cases were filed in the District Court of Maryland, a decrease of 3.1 percent from the 830,400 filings the previous year. Decreases reported by three of the five largest jurisdictions contributed to the overall decrease. Baltimore County reported 111,753 filings, a 14.9 percent decrease from the 131,317 filings in Fiscal Year 1993. Anne Arundel County reported a 4.1 percent decrease, with 83,553 and 80,143 filings in Fiscal Years 1993 and 1994, respectively. Similarly, filings in Prince George's County decreased 1.8 percent from 122,350 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 120,145 in Fiscal Year 1994.

The number of motor vehicle cases processed also decreased to 780,559 during Fiscal Year 1994, a 5.1 percent decline from 822,136 the previous year. Four of the five largest jurisdictions reported a decline in processing activity. Baltimore County reported an 11.6 percent decrease to 118,461 processed cases, as compared with 134,054 in Fiscal Year 1993. Baltimore City followed with a 4.3 percent decrease from 76,350 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 73,042 in Fiscal Year 1994. Anne Arundel and Montgomery Counties also reported decreases of 3.6 percent and 3.2 percent, respectively. Anne Arundel County reported 79,381 processed cases in Fiscal Year 1994 from 82,328 in Fiscal Year 1993, while Montgomery County reported 83,465 cases in Fiscal Year 1993 and 80,818 cases in Fiscal Year 1994. In Fiscal Year 1994, Prince George's County reported a 0.2 percent increase in processed cases, from 107,441 to 107,631. Decreases were reported in each of the three disposition categories: "Cases Tried," "Cases Paid," and "Other." There was a 9.1 percent decline in "Cases Tried," from 267,105 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 242,689 in Fiscal Year 1994. The number of cases categorized as "Paid" decreased by 3.5 percent, while "Other" dispositions decreased by 1.3 percent. There were 462,316 "Cases Paid" during the previous fiscal year, compared with 446,342 in Fiscal Year 1994. Similarly, "Other" dispositions decreased from 92,715 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 91,528 in Fiscal Year 1994.

Criminal

During Fiscal Year 1994, the District Court received 174,046 criminal filings, which exceeded the Fiscal Year 1993 total of 166,018 by 4.8 percent. A combined total of 129,613 criminal cases were filed in the five largest jurisdictions, which constituted approximately 74.5 percent of the criminal caseload Statewide. Baltimore City reported 61,616 filings, an increase of 4.6 percent over 58,892 filings the previous year. A 10.6 percent increase in criminal filings, from 21,308 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 23,560 in Fiscal Year 1994, was reported by Prince George's County. Montgomery County reported a 17.1 percent increase in criminal filings, from 11,855 during Fiscal Year 1993 to 13,888 in Fiscal Year 1994. The 18,654 criminal filings reported by Baltimore County in Fiscal Year 1994 constituted less than a one percent increase from the 18,534 filings in Fiscal Year 1993. Among the larger jurisdictions, only Anne Arundel

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County incurred a decrease in criminal filings; compared with 12,948 filings the prior year, filings decreased 8.1 percent to 11,895 in Fiscal Year 1994.

A 1.1 percent decrease in the number of criminal cases processed by the District Court was reported during Fiscal Year 1994. In Fiscal Year 1993, 178,543 criminal cases were processed, compared with 176,583 in Fiscal Year 1994. Decreases in two of the five largest jurisdictions contributed to this general decline in processing activity. A 13.8 percent decrease, from 26,160 processed criminal cases in Fiscal Year 1993 to 22,543 in Fiscal Year 1994, occurred in Prince George's County. Similarly, Anne Arundel County reported a 13.1 percent decrease, with 14,134 and 12,277 processed cases in Fiscal Years 1993 and 1994, respectively. The remaining large jurisdictions reported increases, the most significant of which was a 12.3 percent in Baltimore County, from 18,865 processed cases in Fiscal Year 1993 to 21,185 in Fiscal Year 1994. Baltimore City and Montgomery County followed with respective increases of 4.3 and 1.4 percent. There were 62,419 cases processed by Baltimore City during Fiscal Year 1994, compared with 59,826 in Fiscal Year 1993. Montgomery County processed 13,305 criminal cases, 189 cases over the previous fiscal year total of 13,116. Collectively, the five largest jurisdictions processed 131,729 criminal cases, approximately 75 percent of the Fiscal Year 1994 caseload Statewide.

Civil

In Fiscal Year 1994, 819,840 civil cases were filed in the District Court, a 4.4 percent increase from the 784,998 filings in Fiscal Year 1993. During Fiscal Year 1994, 710,360 civil cases were filed in the five largest jurisdictions. In Baltimore City, filings increased 6.4 percent, from 238,795 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 254,051 in Fiscal Year 1994. Filings in Prince George's County increased 4.7 percent, from 179,038 to 187,513 in Fiscal Years 1993 and 1994, respectively. Increases were reported in Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties as well. A 7.6 percent increase in civil filings was reported by Baltimore County, from 136,492 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 146,895 in Fiscal Year 1994. Similarly, a 1.9 percent increase was reported by Anne Arundel County, from 43,927 civil filings the prior year to 44,747 in Fiscal Year 1994. The only large jurisdiction in which a decrease occurred was Montgomery County, with filings declining 6.3 percent from 82,302 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 77,152 in Fiscal Year 1994.

Approximately 70 percent of the civil cases filed during Fiscal Year 1994 involved landlord and tenant matters. Landlord and tenant cases increased 2.4 percent, from 557,206 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 570,828 in Fiscal Year 1994. Increases in Prince George's, Baltimore, and Anne Arundel Counties contributed to the increase in landlord and tenant filings Statewide. Filings in Prince George's County increased 5.8 percent, from 135,959 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 143,986 in Fiscal Year 1994, followed by a 5.7 percent increase in Baltimore County, from 103,886 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 109,788 in Fiscal Year 1994. Anne Arundel County reported a

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3.1 percent increase, with 28,253 filings in Fiscal Year 1994 in comparison to 27,416 in Fiscal Year 1993. Baltimore City and Montgomery County reported decreases of 0.8 percent and 6.6 percent, respectively. Although Baltimore City reported a 1,509 reduction in filings during Fiscal Year 1994, its caseload of 190,537 constituted 33.4 percent of landlord and tenant filings Statewide. Prince George's County followed, contributing 25.2 percent of the landlord and tenant cases filed during Fiscal Year 1994. Approximately 4.3 percent (24,786 cases) of the landlord and tenant cases filed in the District Court were contested.

A 10 percent increase in contract and tort cases was reported, with 215,495 in Fiscal Year 1994 compared to 195,848 the previous year. Contract and tort cases accounted for 26.3 percent of the civil cases filed during Fiscal Year 1994. The 57,510 filings reported by Baltimore City comprised approximately 27 percent of the District Court's contract and tort caseload Statewide, followed by 38,152 (17.7 percent) in Prince George's County. In the Fiscal Year 1994 civil caseload, 33,517 filings, which included attachments before judgment and replevin actions, were categorized as "Other," representing a 4.9 percent increase from 31,944 the previous year. In addition, the District Court reported 16,239 special proceedings for Fiscal Year 1994, itemized as follows: 3,146 emergency hearings; 12,522 domestic violence cases; and 571 child abuse cases.

Trends

After generally decreasing for two consecutive years, District Court filings increased 0.9 percent during Fiscal Year 1994. Compared with a total of 1,781,416 filings in Fiscal Year 1993, 1,798,133 were reported in Fiscal Year 1994. Increases in criminal (4.8 percent) and civil (4.4 percent) filings, mitigated by a 3.1 percent decrease in motor vehicle filings, contributed to the slight increase. Previously, total filings decreased by 10.8 percent and 4.8 percent in Fiscal Years 1993 and 1992, respectively.

Since Fiscal Year 1991, motor vehicle filings have decreased steadily to 804,247 in Fiscal Year 1994. During the last five years, the District Court's motor vehicle caseload has dropped 27.6 percent. At the same time, the five largest jurisdictions have incurred individual decreases in motor vehicle filings as well. During the past five years, Montgomery County has reported a 51.7 percent reduction in motor vehicle filings, from 174,463 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 84,234 in Fiscal Year 1994. Baltimore and Prince George's Counties followed with a 33.1 percent decrease, from 166,997 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 111,753 in Fiscal Year 1994, and a 28.9 percent decrease, from 169,037 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 120,145 in Fiscal Year 1994, respectively. Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County reported respective decreases of 17.4 and 7.8 percent during the last five fiscal years as well.

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A steady decline in "Driving While Intoxicated" (DWI) filings during the last five years contributed significantly to the general decrease in motor vehicle filings. Compared with 42,406 filings in Fiscal Year 1990, the DWI caseload decreased 29.7 percent to 29,826 in Fiscal Year 1994. Four of the five largest jurisdictions have reported significant reductions in DWI filings during the last five fiscal years. A 52.5 percent decrease occurred in Montgomery County, with 6,179 DWI filings in Fiscal Year 1990 and 2,934 in Fiscal Year 1994. Baltimore County reported a 44.7 percent decrease, with 4,560 in Fiscal Year 1990 and 2,521 in Fiscal Year 1994. Prince George's County and Baltimore City also reported decreases of 39.9 percent and 34.1 percent, respectively. In Prince George's County, 6,041 DWI filings were reported in Fiscal Year 1990 compared with 3,630 in Fiscal Year 1994. Baltimore City's DWI caseload declined from 2,527 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 1,666 in Fiscal Year 1994. Conversely, Anne Arundel County reported a 1.3 percent increase in DWI filings, from 6,877 in Fiscal Year 1990 to 6,967 in Fiscal Year 1994. However, DWI filings in Anne Arundel County had declined steadily during the two years prior to 1994. In Baltimore City and Prince George's and Baltimore Counties, DWI filings decreased consistently during the last five years, while Montgomery County reported a reduction in filings during the last three years.

District Court criminal filings have fluctuated during the last five years. The greatest number of filings during that time period (174,046) was reported during Fiscal Year 1994. The 61,616 filings reported by Baltimore City in Fiscal Year 1994 comprised approximately 35 percent of the District Court's criminal caseload Statewide. In addition, Baltimore City reported an increase in criminal filings for the fourth consecutive year. Since Fiscal Year 1991, criminal filings in Baltimore City have increased by approximately 12.9 percent. During Fiscal Year 1994, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties both reported their first increases in criminal filings since Fiscal Year 1991.

The number of criminal cases processed by the District Court also has fluctuated during the last five years. Annually, the five largest jurisdictions processed a significant portion of the criminal caseload. During Fiscal Year 1994, 75 percent of the District Court's criminal caseload (131,729) was processed by these jurisdictions. A 1.1 percent decrease in the total number of processed criminal cases was reported, from 178,543 in Fiscal Year 1993 to 176,583 in Fiscal Year 1994. Baltimore City reported its third consecutive increase in criminal cases processed. However, the number of cases processed by Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties has fluctuated during the last five years.

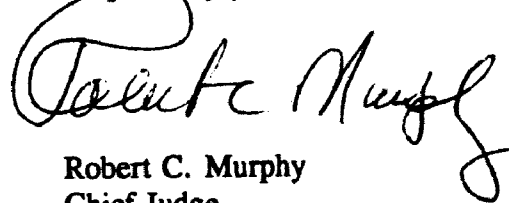
Although the District Court reported a decrease in civil filings for the first time in its history during Fiscal Year 1993, a subsequent increase occurred in Fiscal Year 1994. Civil filings increased from 784,998 to 819,840 during that one year period. Civil filings increased in four of the five largest jurisdictions during the last five years. Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties reported steady increases in civil filings and, following its first decrease in civil filings

Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr.
Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.
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in five years, Baltimore City reported an increase of 6.4 percent during Fiscal Year 1994. Montgomery County reported its first decrease in civil filings during Fiscal Year 1994, a 6.3 percent reduction to 77,152 from 82,302 in Fiscal Year 1993. Decreases in the landlord and tenant caseload, as well as contract and tort filings, were significant factors in the general Montgomery County statistics. Among the categories of civil filings Statewide, contract and tort filings, as well as complaints categorized as "Other," increased following declines in Fiscal Year 1993. Annual increases in landlord and tenant filings continued, comprising approximately 70 percent of civil filings.

It is clear from an analysis of this certification that the judges of Maryland are disposing of a massive caseload under great stress and strain. It is essential that additional judicial resources be added to the existing complement of judges if the Judicial Branch of Government is to maintain stability in the administration of justice in Maryland. I have attached to this letter a draft bill providing for the additional judgeships I have recommended. Should you wish further information, I shall be glad to see that it is provided, either now or at the time of the hearings concerning this request.

Respectfully yours,



Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge

cc: Honorable William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Honorable Laurence Levitan, Chairman, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Honorable Walter M. Baker, Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Honorable Howard P. Rawlings, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
Honorable Joseph F. Vallario, Jr., Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Honorable Louis L. Goldstein, State Comptroller
Honorable Alan M. Wilner, Chief Judge, Court of Special Appeals
Honorable Alfred T. Truitt, Jr., Chairman, Conference of Circuit Judges
Honorable Robert F. Sweeney, Chief Judge, District Court
Honorable Charlotte M. Cooksey, Chairperson, Executive Comm. of the Md. Judicial Conference
Honorable Charles L. Benton, Secretary, Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning
Circuit Administrative Judges

Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr.

Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr.

December 21, 1994

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Bonnie A. Kirkland, Chief Legislative Officer

Stephen E. Harris, Esq., State Public Defender

Molly Q. Ruhl, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County

Andrew L. Sonner, Esq., State's Attorney, Montgomery County

George B. Riggin, Jr., Esq., State Court Administrator

F. Carvel Payne, Esq., Director, Department of Legislative Reference

Alfred C. Boyle, Budget Analyst, Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning

Benjamin Birge, Administrative Analyst, Department of Fiscal Services



Exhibit A

ROBERT F. SWEENEY
Chief Judge

DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND

Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(410) 974-2412

December 13, 1994

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
County Courts Building, 5th Floor
401 Bosley Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Judge Murphy:

As in past years, I have solicited the views of the twelve administrative judges of the District Court as to whether they foresee a need for any newly created judicial positions in their respective districts. The topic was the subject of general discussion at our Administrative Judges Committee meeting of November 17, and I have spoken to each of the judges individually on this matter. As a result of these discussions the administrative judges and I are in full agreement that we could not justify any request for any new District Court judgeship for the coming fiscal year.

In almost every district of this state our civil and criminal caseload has remained constant or shown an increase, but the volume of tried motor vehicle cases continues to be substantially less than the level of three years ago. There are now some signs of increase in the issuance of citations, primarily by the Maryland State Police Department, but this increase is not sufficient to support a request for any additional judges at this time.

I believe that I should point out that the average bench time for District Court judges throughout the state is substantially higher than it has ever been. Although the workload is distributed fairly equally throughout the state, the District Court judges in Anne Arundel County and Baltimore City are putting in such lengthy hours as to give me some concerns about the possibility of judicial fatigue or burnout in those districts. However, even if the caseload and other criteria could support the request for an additional judge in those districts this year, we do not at the present time have

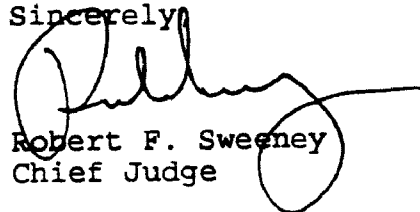
The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Page 2
December 13, 1994

courtrooms or chambers to house additional judges there. As you are aware, construction should begin on the new District Court building in Annapolis at some time within the next eight months, and our long awaited Potee Street building should follow within a year. It is the present belief of the administrative judges in those districts and myself that a request for additional judgeships can await the completion of those structures. I do not discount the possibility, however, that a year from now we might seek an additional judgeship in one or both of those districts if the workload therein continues to increase.

Finally, I believe it appropriate that I make reference to the substantial increase in the domestic violence caseload that this court has experienced over the past two years. Both in numbers of cases and in complexity, domestic violence matters have risen so markedly that we could not possibly have accommodated the increase without the decline in the trials of motor vehicle cases.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Sweeney', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Robert F. Sweeney
Chief Judge

RFS:sdl



Exhibit B-1

The Circuit Court for Wicomico County

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MARYLAND

ALFRED T. TRUITT, JR.

CHIEF JUDGE

P.O. BOX 866

SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21803-0866

TELEPHONE (410) 548-4822

FAX NO. (410) 548-4826

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

November 14, 1994

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

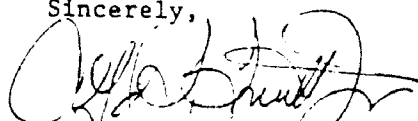
Dear Chief:

I have reviewed the statistical needs analysis for additional circuit court judges in Fiscal, 1996. I agree with the analysis which indicates this Circuit needs 2.3 additional judges. (Copy attached).

As you indicate in your correspondence, two of the more important considerations in my decision are the availability of physical facilities and local fiscal support. Unfortunately, at the present time, Wicomico County is the only county in the circuit with adequate facilities. We are, however, hopeful that if the legislature and you deem it appropriate to provide an additional judge, that arrangements can be made in the other counties for adequate facilities. Dorchester County is in the process of adding additional space which is scheduled for completion in September, 1995, and we feel Somerset County will attempt to meet any required needs since they are always cooperative.

Therefore, my request to you is that we seek legislative authority during this coming session of the legislature for an additional judge with the details to be worked out within the circuit.

Sincerely,



Alfred T. Truitt, Jr.
Judge

ATTJr:mb1

Attachment

The Second Judicial Circuit of Maryland

CIRCUIT COURT FOR CAROLINE COUNTY

J. OWEN WISE
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

COURT HOUSE
P.O. BOX 358
DENTON, MARYLAND 21026
410-479-2303

November 17, 1994

George B. Riggin, Jr.
State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Riggin:

I have received and reviewed the Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships in the Circuit Court. The creation and funding of a new judgeship in this Circuit, effective January 1, 1995, should alleviate much of our overload in Cecil County and this Circuit.

While this does not give us the number of judges statistically needed to handle our caseload, we have no basis for requesting any additional judgeships this year. Relative to the shortfall in other jurisdictions, their needs, for the most part, are of greater duration and magnitude than ours, and should be met before ours are addressed.

Very truly yours,

J. Owen Wise
J. Owen Wise

JOW/sw



The Circuit Court for Baltimore County

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MARYLAND

CHAMBERS OF
EDWARD A. DeWATERS, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE AND
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

COUNTY COURTS BUILDING
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
(301) 887-2842

November 18, 1994

The Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
The Court of Appeals of Maryland
Courts of Appeals Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chief Judge Murphy:

This is in response to a request by the Administrative Office of the Courts concerning the report prepared on the need for additional judgeships, entitled Statistical Analysis of the Need for Additional Judgeships in the Circuit Court (Fiscal 1996).

According to the Statistical Analysis, the Third Judicial Circuit is in need of 1.6 additional judges in fiscal 1996, 0.8 in Harford County and 0.8 in Baltimore County. I am not requesting an additional Circuit Court Judge in Baltimore County in the next fiscal year although I do believe that in the subsequent year, there will be strong need for an additional judge in this County. The basis for this anticipated increase in judicial personnel is founded on a number of factors, chief of which includes the growth of the workload of the Court. As indicated in the chart below, the number of filings in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County has increased 31.3 percent since fiscal 1985. During that year, Baltimore County reported 20,176 original and reopened cases while in fiscal 1994, the number of these filings totaled 26,500.

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
Civil	11,200	12,044	11,633	13,365	13,111	13,673	14,061	15,088	15,098	15,300
Juvenile	3,177	3,719	3,975	3,425	3,478	3,862	3,368	3,448	3,556	3,873
Criminal	5,799	7,374	8,717	8,719	9,782	9,739	7,955	7,200	6,801	7,327
Total	20,176	23,137	24,325	25,509	26,371	27,274	25,384	25,736	25,455	26,500

While statistically, the number of overall filings in Baltimore County have remained constant between fiscal years 1991 and 1993 due mostly to the success of the Instant Jury Trial Program, there appears to be a steady increase in the number

Honorable Robert C. Murphy
November 18, 1994
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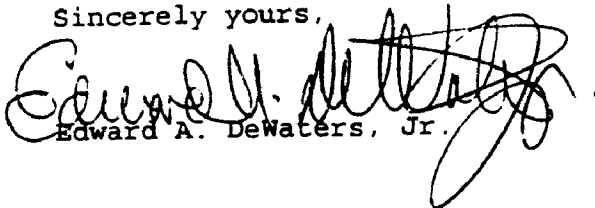
of all case filings in fiscal 1994. Juvenile filings, for example, have increased nearly nine percent from 3,556 in fiscal 1993 to 3,873 in fiscal 1994. Criminal filings, while still relatively low because of the Instant Jury Trial Program, have begun to increase equaling the level that was reported in fiscal 1992. Over the past fiscal year, the Court has witnessed a 7.7% jump in the overall number of these filings from 6,801 in fiscal 1993 to 7,327 filings in fiscal 1993.

On the civil side, filings continue to rise at the same rate (between one and two percent) as they have over the past ten years. Civil filings in fiscal 1994 reportedly reached an all time high in Baltimore County with 15,300 filings. As you are aware, without the availability of the Settlement Judges in Baltimore County, the Court would be hard pressed to keep current with its burgeoning workload. In calendar year 1993, these judges collectively held 2,426 hearings. Of this amount, there were 1,451 cases settled which resulted in a settlement rate of 60 percent.

Concomitant with this growing need for an additional judgeship, the County government has begun plans for construction of three new courtrooms on the fourth floor of the County Courts Building. Engineering design funds in the amount of \$210,000 will be let under contract for these courtrooms within the next month. Actual physical construction is scheduled to begin in July of 1995 and approximately 1.94 Million Dollars has been earmarked by the County for this effort. With the completion of construction in the next fiscal year and with the continued growth in the need for an additional judgeship, I intend to request an additional judgeship beginning in fiscal 1997.

As to the need for an additional judge in Harford County, I have not yet heard from Judge Carr, although I have forwarded him a copy of the Statistical Analysis prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts. If Judge Carr indicates a need for an additional judgeship, I will pass his comments along to you for inclusion in your overall Certification to the Legislature.

Sincerely yours,


Edward A. DeWaters, Jr.

EADjr/mc

cc: Honorable Barbara Kerr Howe
Honorable William O. Carr
Mr. George B. Riggan, Jr.
Mr. Peter J. Lally

STATE OF MARYLAND
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ANNAPOLIS
21401

RAYMOND G. THIEME, JR.
CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

TELEPHONE 410 222 1390

November 15, 1994

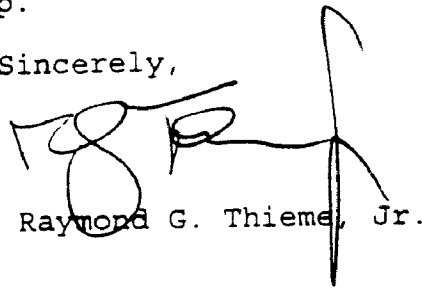
George B. Riggin, Jr., Esquire
State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: New Judgeships - 1995 Session

Dear George:

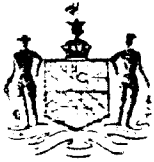
In response to your letter of October 26, 1994, although there is a need for an additional judgeship in Anne Arundel County at this time, neither Anne Arundel, Howard or Carroll Counties will be requesting an additional judgeship.

Sincerely,



Raymond G. Thieme, Jr.

RGT:pr



SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MARYLAND
JUDICIAL CENTER
50 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

PAUL H. WEINSTEIN
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

(301) 217-7455

November 16, 1994

Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge, Court of Appeals
Courts of Appeal Building
361 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

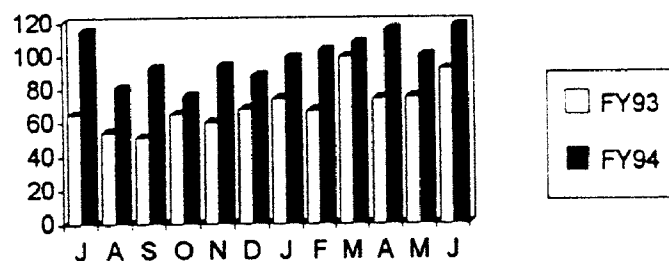
Re: Statistical Needs Analysis for
New Judgeships

Dear Judge Murphy:

This letter is in response to your statistical needs analysis on the need for additional circuit court judgeships in Fiscal 1996. As your report reflects Montgomery County ranks the highest, state-wide, for additional judges needed. This is the third consecutive year in which Montgomery County has shown exceptional need for additional judgeships, two of which we ranked the highest. We continue to seek your support in funding these positions.

To help contend with the increasing caseload and lack of judicial resources, we were at the forefront in implementing case management techniques to assist in disposing of the caseload in a timely fashion. The underlying concept behind our case management system is establishing active judicial supervision of cases, developing delay reduction techniques and institutionalizing an expectation that judicial action will occur at each scheduled court appearance. We have been successful in implementing each of the above principles and at the same time increased our trial rate by 42% (see graph).

NUMBER OF TRIALS -- FY93-FY94



Honorable Robert C. Murphy
November 16, 1994
Page Two

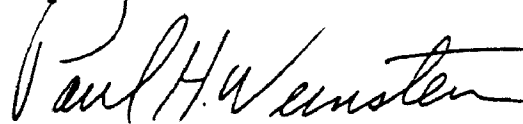
Also, table 6 reflects not only do we rank highest in need of additional judgeships considering the ranking of predictive factors, but as the performance factors demonstrate, we have been more successful than any other jurisdiction of compatible size in disposing of cases in an expeditious manner.

As you are well aware, Montgomery County continues to be the fastest growing region within the State of Maryland. The growth in population directly corresponds to the increase in case filings. Accordingly, since there are a specific number of cases for which a judge is accountable, and the population continues to show a steady increase with the number of cases increasing beyond the reasonable ability of the present compliment of judges to service these cases, the present level of service to the public declines with or without new 'techniques' to handle the volume. As history has demonstrated with population growth and past workloads, we predict that this need will not disappear (see attachment).

The County Executive and County Council have supported this request in the past and continue to do so. An architect has been selected to design two courtrooms and the preliminary cost estimate is approximately 3.5 million. We are currently in the process of renovating the large courtroom in the old Red Brick Courthouse for a temporary facility for the new judge during the interim period between construction completion dates.

The judges in Montgomery County are diligently working to decrease filing to disposition times in criminal and civil cases while actively devoting personal time in institutionalizing the expectation that judicial action will occur at each scheduled court appearance. We have implemented new strategies, are exhaustively working to improve the administration of justice, and nonetheless have been unable to maintain stability. We earnestly solicit your support in seeking an additional judgeship in Montgomery County.

Very truly yours,



Paul H. Weinstein

PHW:gwg

cc: George B. Riggan, Jr., State Court Administrator
Montgomery County Circuit Court Judges

						Multiplicative	Exponential		
Year	Population	Filings	Civil	Criminal	Support	Linear	Growth	Growth	Forecast
1983	600000	14782	10041	3501	1240	14,108	14,675	14,802	13,676
1984	610000	15891	10493	3931	1467	15,014	15,380	15,427	15,539
1985	628000	16198	10880	3752	1566	16,646	16,703	16,617	17,402
1986	645000	17360	11869	3408	2083	18,186	18,019	17,826	19,265
1987	680000	20944	14905	4075	1964	21,359	20,934	20,599	21,128
1988	710000	24446	18211	4208	2027	24,078	23,663	23,317	22,991
1989	735000	25120	18974	3992	2154	26,344	26,105	25,853	24,853
1990	757027	27337	22676	2739	1922	28,341	28,387	28,316	26,716
1991	765000	28540	23275	2287	2978	29,063	29,243	29,264	28,579
1992	771000	30151	24127	2843	3181	29,607	29,899	29,998	30,442
1993	777000	32127	26864	2451	2812	30,151	30,564	30,751	32,305
1994	782000					30,604	31,125	31,393	34,168
1995	790000					31,329	32,038	32,447	36,031
1996	799000					32,145	33,084	33,676	37,894
1997	809000					33,051	34,273	35,096	39,757
1998	820000					34,048	35,612	36,728	41,620
1999	832000					35,136	37,111	38,594	43,483
2000	845000					36,314	38,780	40,723	45,346
2001	856000					37,311	40,230	42,616	47,208
2002	867000					38,308	41,715	44,597	49,071
2003	878000					39,305	43,235	46,671	50,934
2004	889000					40,303	44,790	48,840	52,797
2005	900000					41,300	46,380	51,110	54,660
2006	907500					41,979	47,486	52,719	56,523
2007	915000					42,659	48,608	54,377	58,386
2008	922500					43,339	49,747	56,088	60,249
2009	930000					44,019	50,904	57,853	62,112
2010	937500					44,699	52,077	59,673	63,975
2011	945000					45,378	53,268	61,551	65,838
2012	952500					46,058	54,477	63,488	67,701
2013	960000					46,738	55,703	65,485	69,564
2014	967500					47,418	56,947	67,546	71,426
2015	975000					48,098	58,209	69,671	73,289
%Change		63%				241%	297%	371%	436%
%1983-1993		30%	117%	168%	-30%	114%	108%	108%	136%
%1993-2015		25%				60%	90%	127%	127%

Judges

32

39

46

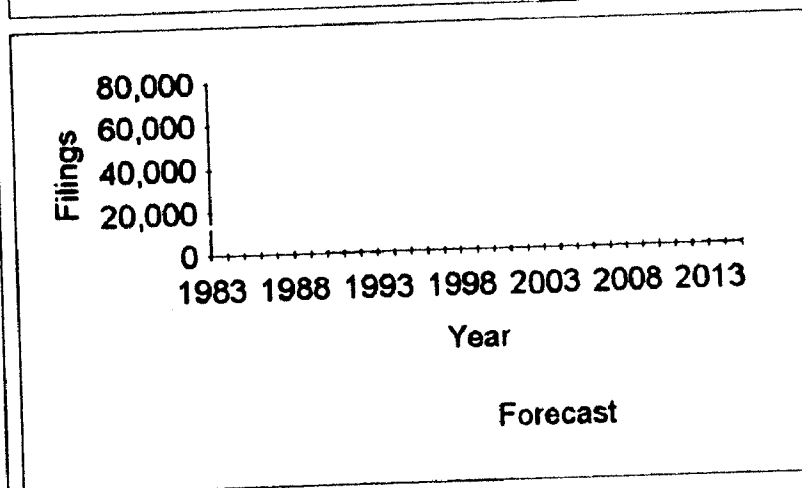
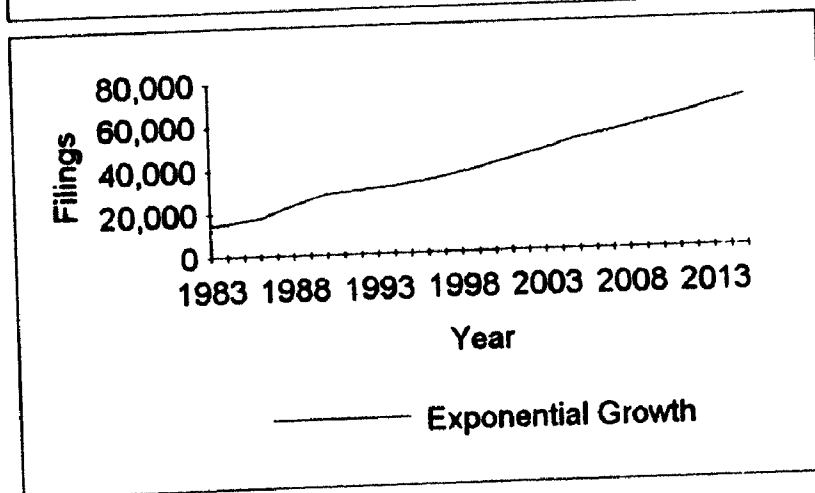
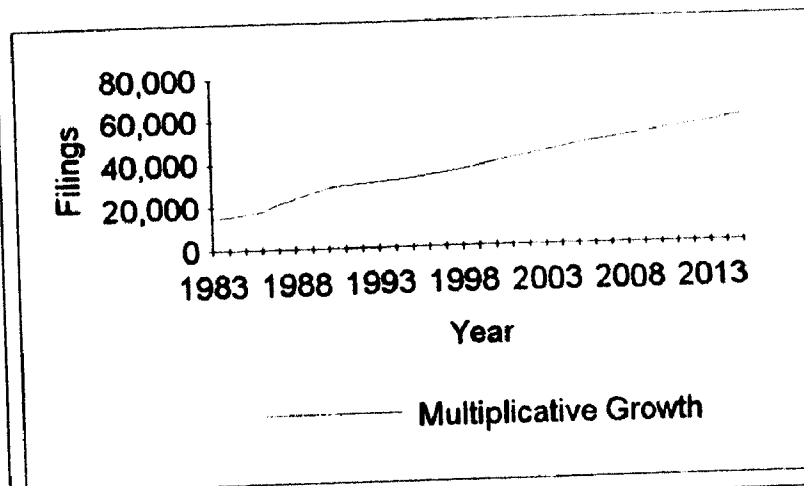
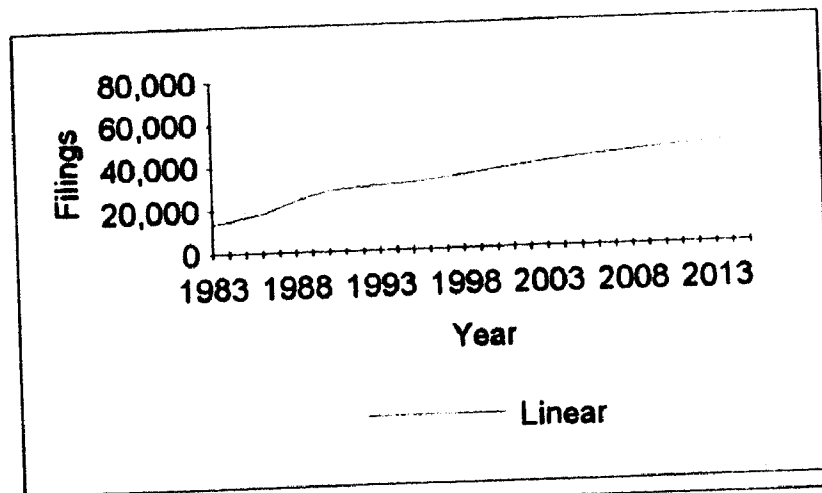
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FORECAST(POP,FILINGS1983-1993,POP1983-1993)

(5.864x10^-13)xPOPULATION^2.838

GROWTH(FILINGS1983-1993,POP1983-1993,POP)

FORECAST(YEAR,FILINGS1983-1993)



Circuit Court
for
Baltimore City

111 NORTH CALVERT STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

JOSEPH H. H. KAPLAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

November 1, 1994

396-6080
City Secretary 396-4900

Honorable Robert C. Murphy
Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland
County Courts Building
Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Chief Judge Murphy:

I have reviewed the Statistical Needs Analysis for New Judgeships sent to me by George B. Riffin, Jr., State Court Administrator, and I must respectfully disagree with the conclusion reached in that analysis that Baltimore City needs no additional judges. The Analysis fails to take into consideration that the Circuit Court for Baltimore City has taken on the task of disposing of all the personal injury asbestos cases, no matter where originally filed in this State. The cases filed in jurisdictions other than Baltimore City, and which I am sure are included in their filing numbers and not in ours, are in the several thousands. Also, as everyone knows, asbestos cases are not one or two day trials.

Currently, we have six civil jury trial judges, two of whom are assigned to the asbestos docket, soon to be at least three judges assigned to that docket, leaving three or less civil jury trial judges to handle the approximately 600 non-asbestos, non-domestic and non-juvenile cases filed each month. In addition, the misdemeanor prayer for jury trial caseload has seen a large increase in the recent past. That large scale increase shows no signs of abating, and, therefore, it may be necessary for us to take another civil jury trial judge from the civil docket and add that judge to the two judge complement which we presently have dealing with the misdemeanor docket. But for your assistance in providing us with Judges Gilmore, Hennegan, Levin and Pines on a regular basis, we could not possibly stay afloat.

It would seem at the very least, judges from other jurisdictions, specifically those Circuit Courts which sent us, with our consent, the several thousand personal injury asbestos cases, should lend us, until the personal injury asbestos caseload is disposed of, at least two judges, which they would select but

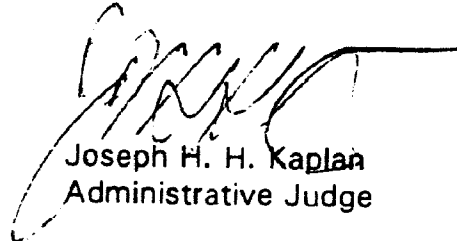
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Honorable Robert C. Murphy
November 1, 1994
Page Two

who would not necessarily be the same judges for more than one trial each. We have the room to locate those additional judges and, one way or another, we will staff them.

If such a loan is not possible, then we need no less than two additional judges to deal with what has been and is going to be a many year large scale problem.

Sincerely yours,



Joseph H. H. Kaplan
Administrative Judge

JHHK:sp

cc: George B. Riffin, Jr., Esq., State Court Administrator
Hon. Kathleen O'Ferrall Friedman, JICD
Hon. Ellen M. Heller, JICC
Hon. Joseph P. McCurdy, JICCr
Hon. David B. Mitchell, JICJ
Hon. Richard T. Rombro, JAL

STATISTICAL TABLES IN SUPPORT OF
THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL
JUDGEShips IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS

FISCAL 1996

Administrative Office of the Courts
Courts of Appeal Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410/974-2141

TABLE 1
STATEWIDE CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FISCAL YEARS 1983 THROUGH 1994

Case Type	FY 83 Filings (% of Change)	FY 84 Filings (% of Change)	FY 85 Filings (% of Change)	FY 86 Filings (% of Change)	FY 87 Filings (% of Change)	FY 88 Filings (% of Change)	FY 89 Filings (% of Change)	FY 90 Filings (% of Change)	FY 91 Filings (% of Change)	FY 92 Filings (% of Change)	FY 93 Filings (% of Change)	FY 94 Filings (% of Change)
Civil ^a	91,255 +11.79%	97,674 + 7.03%	102,030 + 4.46%	106,716 + 4.59%	106,193 -0.49%	112,645 + 6.08%	116,009 + 2.99%	128,893 +11.11%	137,077 + 6.35%	149,229 + 8.87%	158,185 + 6.00%	157,005 - 0.75%
Criminal ^b	33,862 +10.75%	36,738 + 8.49%	42,547 +15.81%	48,660 +14.37%	55,247 +13.54%	57,923 + 4.84%	61,330 + 5.88%	60,428 -1.47%	69,451 +14.93%	74,062 + 6.64%	69,836 - 5.71%	68,927 - 1.30%
Juvenile ^c	26,518 + 0.14%	26,626 + 0.41%	27,387 + 2.86%	30,834 +12.59%	32,439 + 5.21%	32,806 + 1.13%	33,629 + 2.51%	36,598 + 8.83%	32,716 -10.61%	33,360 + 1.97%	37,660 +12.89%	38,694 + 2.75%
Total	151,635 + 9.33%	161,038 + 6.20%	171,964 + 6.78%	186,210 + 8.28%	193,879 + 4.12%	203,374 + 4.90%	211,058 + 3.78%	225,919 + 7.04%	239,244 + 5.90%	256,651 + 7.28%	265,681 + 3.52%	264,626 - .40%

^aBeginning in Fiscal 1985, "Law" and "Equity" were combined into one "Civil" category.

^bBeginning in Fiscal 1982, Baltimore City changed its criminal counting procedures from individual charges to cases which are defined as charges arising out of a single incident.

^cExcludes juvenile causes in Montgomery County which is the jurisdiction of the District Court.

TABLE 2

**PROJECTIONS OF CIRCUIT COURT FILINGS FOR
EACH JURISDICTION IN MARYLAND THROUGH 1996**

Circuit/Jurisdiction	Projected ^a									
	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
First Circuit	7,670	7,930	8,836	8,947	9,190	10,882	11,296	11,096	11,077	11,427
Dorchester	1,865	1,726	1,800	1,792	1,674	2,218	2,068	2,044	2,022	2,057
Somerset	1,021	1,108	1,314	1,334	1,579	1,784	2,046	2,026	2,085	2,207
Wicomico	2,604	2,994	3,621	3,663	3,577	3,854	3,986	3,936	4,090	4,187
Worcester	2,180	2,102	2,101	2,158	2,360	3,026	3,196	3,090	2,880	2,987
Second Circuit	6,259	6,939	7,840	9,238	9,721	10,442	10,013	10,041	10,607	10,717
Caroline	1,016	1,180	1,238	1,283	1,401	1,325	1,440	1,302	1,373	1,387
Cecil	2,549	2,897	3,194	3,817	4,001	4,633	4,413	4,328	4,153	4,007
Kent	668	643	661	883	966	1,437	1,171	1,392	1,495	1,597
Queen Anne's	951	1,045	1,306	1,654	1,648	1,342	1,388	1,351	1,757	1,847
Talbot	1,075	1,174	1,441	1,601	1,705	1,705	1,601	1,668	1,829	1,857
Third Circuit	29,792	31,968	33,334	33,713	31,995	33,492	32,815	33,537	33,948	34,387
Baltimore	24,325	25,509	26,371	27,274	25,384	25,736	25,455	26,500	26,536	26,847
Harford	5,467	6,459	6,963	6,439	6,611	7,756	7,360	7,037	7,412	7,540
Fourth Circuit	6,679	7,463	8,097	8,832	8,645	9,350	9,099	10,544	10,703	11,117
Allegany	1,828	2,052	2,226	2,296	2,366	2,576	2,795	3,224	3,337	3,597
Garrett	747	906	949	1,063	1,090	1,131	1,099	1,150	1,407	1,497
Washington	4,104	4,505	4,922	5,473	5,189	5,643	5,205	6,170	5,959	6,117
Fifth Circuit	25,329	25,611	26,808	31,675	38,995	40,074	39,866	39,671	33,447	34,217
Anne Arundel	16,723	15,717	16,565	19,960	26,633	26,798	26,250	26,362	18,701	18,817
Carroll	3,757	4,049	4,247	4,563	4,978	5,581	6,236	6,296	6,375	6,617
Howard	4,849	5,845	5,996	7,152	7,384	7,695	7,380	7,013	8,371	8,717
Sixth Circuit	22,265	25,328	28,153	30,849	30,577	38,959	43,480	40,246	34,933	36,417
Frederick	3,388	3,805	4,159	4,787	5,281	5,289	5,155	5,219	5,363	5,417
Montgomery ^b	18,877	21,523	23,994	26,062	25,296	33,670	38,325	35,027	29,570	30,997
Seventh Circuit	43,583	45,877	46,932	49,807	50,728	52,777	51,999	55,213	54,405	55,317
Calvert	1,536	1,695	1,793	2,913	2,868	2,904	2,807	2,801	3,305	3,417
Charles	4,710	4,733	4,825	4,741	4,934	5,539	5,456	5,712	6,061	6,117
Prince George's	34,525	35,314	36,533	38,931	39,037	40,082	39,748	42,721	40,689	41,617
St. Mary's	2,812	3,335	3,781	3,222	3,889	4,252	3,988	3,979	4,350	4,417
Eighth Circuit	52,302	53,058	51,058	52,858	59,393	60,675	67,113	64,278	54,152	54,117
Baltimore City ^c	52,302	53,058	51,058	52,858	59,393	60,675	67,113	64,278	54,152	54,117
STATEWIDE	193,879	203,374	211,058	225,919	239,244	256,651	265,681	264,626	243,272	248,317

^aFor Fiscal Years 1995 and 1996, projections are based on a linear regression method of forecasting utilizing data from Fiscal Year 1984 through Year 1994. In some instances, data may be deleted because it may skew projections.

^bExcludes juvenile cases heard in Montgomery County. In addition, Montgomery County reported 7,313 tax liens as civil filings in Fiscal 1994.

^cInference was made from the limited number of reliable monthly filing activity reports for the 1994 Fiscal Year involving paternity and juvenile in Baltimore City.

TABLE 3

FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1991, 1992, 1993, AND 1994

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Criminal Cases				Excluding Cases Over 360 Days*			
	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	144	201	158	116	136	129	120	101
Somerset	141	101	118	89	114	98	99	82
Wicomico	91	88	102	120	90	85	98	117
Worcester	113	117	132	128	109	111	125	108
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	153	142	155	147	153	145	138	142
Cecil	184	181	178	238	175	166	163	157
Kent	168	169	244	145	158	168	159	140
Queen Anne's	135	311	124	127	129	123	118	118
Talbot	132	115	133	130	129	115	127	127
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	114	136	105	108	98	83	83	80
Harford	193	212	210	228	135	141	143	145
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	160	149	156	160	143	142	134	138
Garrett	135	102	127	133	135	102	112	133
Washington	181	206	177	174	164	148	139	138
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	173	177	171	167	138	138	144	136
Carroll	148	121	117	128	124	120	109	122
Howard	152	167	175	183	128	127	130	134
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	216	182	237	185	169	150	157	160
Montgomery	244	169	206	181	194	113	122	113
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	133	159	268	312	124	131	144	132
Charles	173	170	200	191	153	158	179	162
Prince George's	149	143	162	164	121	120	126	125
St. Mary's	192	151	169	182	128	132	141	142
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	215	143	124	123	109	95	88	93
Statewide	173	151	150	148	120	112	112	112

*This column provides a more accurate estimate of average case time by excluding older cases which may have failed to be reported statistically as closed.

TABLE 3 (cont'd.)

FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1991, 1992, 1993, AND 1994

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Civil Cases				Excluding Cases Over 721 Days*			
	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
<u>First Circuit</u>								
Dorchester	432	313	294	244	225	186	158	183
Somerset	260	200	129	139	165	136	119	117
Wicomico	300	229	223	258	211	182	166	204
Worcester	221	240	345	233	181	186	205	194
<u>Second Circuit</u>								
Caroline	190	353	291	243	155	201	161	162
Cecil	220	348	264	304	149	162	173	163
Kent	273	171	276	245	190	128	202	170
Queen Anne's	190	246	227	191	155	197	189	163
Talbot	217	203	213	217	169	167	177	171
<u>Third Circuit</u>								
Baltimore	349	339	415	417	199	195	180	187
Harford	336	436	290	310	209	198	179	184
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>								
Allegany	425	389	298	278	255	298	234	246
Garrett	176	178	173	170	167	163	157	144
Washington	269	254	225	423	149	146	140	174
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>								
Anne Arundel	515	416	502	376	203	194	249	214
Carroll	251	291	243	283	187	207	203	213
Howard	294	475	356	406	224	268	245	242
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>								
Frederick	240	289	349	326	191	195	241	225
Montgomery	315	223	187	245	227	155	112	150
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>								
Calvert	317	283	284	302	207	219	209	207
Charles	266	411	331	278	187	197	187	189
Prince George's	334	335	346	375	222	235	220	209
St. Mary's	252	302	260	260	169	194	193	192
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>								
Baltimore City	421	344	314	333	231	235	217	227
Statewide	353	325	320	330	211	204	190	194

*This column provides a more accurate estimate of average case time by excluding older which may have failed to be reported statistically as closed.

TABLE 3 (cont'd.)

FILING TO DISPOSITION OF CASES TERMINATED
IN FISCAL 1991, 1992, 1993, AND 1994

	Average in Days - Filing to Disposition							
	All Juvenile Cases				Excluding Cases Over 271 Days*			
	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
First Circuit								
Dorchester	67	75	47	55	67	53	47	55
Somerset	40	397	14	36	18	10	14	19
Wicomico	55	67	48	39	40	46	46	38
Worcester	71	53	44	45	56	41	42	45
Second Circuit								
Caroline	104	34	25	47	52	34	25	39
Cecil	97	104	96	191	75	66	73	72
Kent	50	60	53	75	50	60	53	75
Queen Anne's	48	52	55	62	48	52	55	57
Talbot	52	69	74	81	52	61	58	47
Third Circuit								
Baltimore	95	92	99	135	58	56	60	59
Harford	65	73	67	99	63	62	63	71
Fourth Circuit								
Allegany	66	81	84	83	62	72	74	67
Garrett	41	47	52	53	41	42	45	50
Washington	77	58	104	64	58	53	68	61
Fifth Circuit								
Anne Arundel	126	118	70	68	89	83	65	63
Carroll	72	57	126	148	51	53	61	53
Howard	89	89	105	88	61	67	65	66
Sixth Circuit								
Frederick	118	96	98	97	97	81	84	84
Montgomery	160	137	135	133	107	101	113	110
Seventh Circuit								
Calvert	110	96	101	87	73	65	75	82
Charles	78	98	81	86	76	78	74	82
Prince George's	103	110	141	169	76	87	82	77
St. Mary's	128	96	149	188	72	68	74	80
Eighth Circuit								
Baltimore City	108	168	111	122	77	108	83	88
Statewide	107	133	108	122	76	89	78	79

*This column provides a more accurate estimate of average case time by excluding older cases which may have failed to be reported statistically as closed.

TABLE 4

**MARYLAND POPULATION CHANGE BETWEEN 1980 AND 1990 CENSUS
AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS THROUGH JULY 1, 1996**

Circuit/Jurisdiction	Actual Population		Actual Annual Rate of Change %	Population Projections		Projected Annual Rate of Change
	April 1, 1980	April 1, 1990		July 1, 1990	July 1, 1995	
<u>First Circuit</u>	145,240	163,043	1.23	163,590	173,600	1.22
Dorchester	30,623	30,236	-0.13	30,260	29,900	-0.24
Somerset	19,188	23,440	2.22	23,530	25,000	1.25
Wicomico	64,540	74,339	1.52	74,610	80,400	1.55
Worcester	30,889	35,028	1.34	35,190	38,300	1.77
<u>Second Circuit</u>	151,380	180,726	1.94	181,390	195,700	1.58
Caroline	23,143	27,035	1.68	27,120	29,000	1.39
Cecil	60,430	71,347	1.81	71,590	78,000	1.79
Kent	16,695	17,842	0.69	17,840	18,600	0.85
Queen Anne's	25,508	33,953	3.31	34,170	37,500	1.95
Talbot	25,604	30,549	1.93	30,670	32,600	1.26
<u>Third Circuit</u>	801,545	874,266	0.91	876,050	918,900	0.98
Baltimore	655,615	692,134	0.56	693,030	711,900	0.54
Harford	145,930	182,132	2.48	183,020	207,000	2.62
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>	221,132	224,477	0.15	224,540	228,600	0.36
Allegany	80,548	74,946	-0.70	74,780	72,100	-0.72
Garrett	27,498	28,138	0.23	28,160	29,000	0.60
Washington	113,086	121,393	0.74	121,600	127,500	0.97
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>	585,703	737,939	2.60	741,770	814,800	1.97
Anne Arundel	370,775	427,239	1.52	428,640	453,800	1.17
Carroll	96,356	123,372	2.80	124,060	137,700	2.20
Howard	118,572	187,328	5.80	189,070	223,300	3.62
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>	693,845	907,235	3.08	912,640	1,004,800	2.02
Frederick	114,792	150,208	3.09	151,140	168,900	2.35
Montgomery	579,053	757,027	3.07	761,500	835,900	1.95
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>	832,355	957,768	1.51	960,870	1,037,900	1.60
Calvert	34,638	51,372	4.83	51,780	61,700	3.83
Charles	72,751	101,154	3.90	101,850	114,800	2.54
Prince George's	665,071	729,268	0.97	730,850	776,000	1.24
St. Mary's	59,895	75,974	2.69	76,390	85,400	2.36
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>	786,775	736,014	-0.65	734,750	718,800	-0.43
Baltimore City	786,775	736,014	-0.65	734,750	718,800	-0.43
Statewide	4,217,975	4,781,468	1.34	4,795,600	5,093,100	1.24

SOURCES: Bureau of the Census, and Maryland Population Report July 1, 1990 and Projections to 1996, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Health Statistics.

Change in population from one year to the next is dependent upon two factors -- natural increase and net migration. Natural increase is the excess of births over deaths. Net migration is the difference between the number of people moving into an area and the number moving out. For further information, see source documents above.

TABLE 5

COMPARATIVE WORKLOAD MEASURES PER CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
(Fiscal Year 1994)

Jurisdiction (Number of Judges) ^a	(1) Filings Per Judge (Rank)	(2) Pending Cases Per Judge (Rank)	(3) Dispositions Per Judge (Rank)	(4) Population Per Judge ^b (Rank)	(5) Attorney/Judge ^c Ratio (Rank)
<u>First Circuit</u>					
Dorchester (1.5)	1,363 (20)	766 (17)	1,235 (20)	19,933 (22)	18 (23)
Somerset (1)	2,026 (5)	897 (15)	1,927 (4)	24,600 (21)	13 (24)
Wicomico (2.5)	1,574 (11)	860 (16)	1,412 (14)	31,680 (13)	50 (11)
Worcester (2)	1,545 (12)	713 (20)	1,627 (10)	18,850 (23)	45 (12)
<u>Second Circuit</u>					
Caroline (1)	1,302 (23)	737 (19)	1,206 (21)	28,600 (17)	25 (19)
Cecil (3)	1,443 (14)	948 (13)	1,410 (15)	25,600 (20)	25 (20)
Kent (1)	1,392 (19)	495 (24)	1,281 (19)	18,500 (24)	35 (15)
Queen Anne's (1)	1,351 (21)	535 (22)	1,337 (16)	36,800 (10)	43 (13)
Talbot (1)	1,668 (9)	627 (21)	1,640 (9)	32,200 (12)	110 (6)
<u>Third Circuit</u>					
Baltimore (15)	1,767 (8)	2,085 (4)	1,618 (11)	47,220 (3)	175 (3)
Harford (5)	1,407 (16)	1,682 (7)	1,169 (22)	40,440 (8)	61 (9)
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>					
Allegany (2)	1,612 (10)	1,028 (12)	1,655 (8)	36,350 (11)	39 (14)
Garrett (1)	1,150 (24)	516 (23)	1,069 (24)	28,900 (16)	25 (21)
Washington (4)	1,543 (13)	934 (14)	1,561 (12)	31,600 (14)	30 (18)
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>					
Anne Arundel (9)	2,929 (1)	2,867 (2)	2,788 (1)	49,844 (2)	129 (5)
Carroll (3)	2,099 (4)	1,600 (8)	2,021 (2)	44,967 (4)	72 (7)
Howard (5)	1,403 (17)	1,144 (10)	1,442 (13)	43,160 (5)	175 (4)
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>					
Frederick (4)	1,305 (22)	1,120 (11)	1,144 (23)	41,325 (7)	59 (10)
Montgomery ^d (15)	1,848 (7)	2,301 (3)	1,786 (5)	54,553 (1)	303 (1)
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>					
Calvert (2)	1,401 (18)	758 (18)	1,314 (17)	29,900 (15)	33 (16)
Charles (4)	1,428 (15)	1,232 (9)	1,307 (18)	28,000 (18)	25 (22)
Prince George's (20)	2,131 (3)	1,910 (5)	1,948 (3)	38,355 (9)	72 (8)
St. Mary's (2)	1,990 (6)	1,832 (6)	1,749 (6)	41,750 (6)	32 (17)
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>					
Baltimore City (26)	2,382 (2)	3,949 (1)	1,711 (7)	27,754 (19)	176 (2)
Statewide (131)	1,946	2,161	1,722	38,395	130

^aThe number of judges used in developing the rankings in this chart is based on the number authorized in Fiscal 1995 (131 statewide).

^bPopulation estimate for July 1, 1994, issued by the Maryland Center for Health Statistics.

^cAttorney statistics obtained from the Administrator of the Clients' Security Trust Fund as of September 14, 1993. Out-of-state attorneys are not included in these ratios. The 1994 figures were not available.

^dExcludes juvenile cases in Montgomery County which is the jurisdiction of the District Court.

TABLE 6

COMPARED RANKING OF VARIOUS FACTORS AFFECTING JUDGESHIP ALLOCATION

	Ranking of Predictive Factors				Ranking of Performance Factors (Inverted Ranking Used ^a to Show Longest Times)		
	Filings	Population	Pending Cases	Attorneys	Time/ Civil	Time/ Criminal	Time/ Juvenile
First Circuit							
Dorchester	20	22	17	23	183 (15)	101 (21)	55 (17)
Somerset	5	21	15	24	117 (24)	82 (23)	19 (24)
Wicomico	11	13	16	11	204 (9)	117 (18)	38 (23)
Worcester	12	23	20	12	194 (10)	108 (20)	45 (21)
Second Circuit							
Caroline	23	17	19	19	162 (21)	142 (5)	39 (22)
Cecil	14	20	13	20	163 (19)	157 (3)	72 (9)
Kent	19	24	24	15	170 (18)	140 (7)	75 (8)
Queen Anne's	21	10	22	13	163 (20)	118 (17)	57 (16)
Talbot	9	12	21	6	171 (17)	127 (14)	47 (20)
Third Circuit							
Baltimore	8	3	4	3	187 (13)	80 (24)	59 (15)
Harford	16	8	7	9	184 (14)	145 (4)	71 (10)
Fourth Circuit							
Allegany	10	11	12	14	246 (1)	138 (8)	67 (11)
Garrett	24	16	23	21	144 (23)	133 (12)	50 (19)
Washington	13	14	14	18	174 (16)	138 (9)	61 (14)
Fifth Circuit							
Anne Arundel	1	2	2	5	214 (5)	136 (10)	63 (13)
Carroll	4	4	8	7	213 (6)	122 (16)	53 (18)
Howard	17	5	10	4	242 (2)	134 (11)	66 (12)
Sixth Circuit							
Frederick	22	7	11	10	225 (4)	160 (2)	84 (3)
Montgomery	7	1	3	1	150 (22)	113 (19)	110 (1)
Seventh Circuit							
Calvert	18	15	18	16	207 (8)	132 (13)	82 (4)
Charles	15	18	9	22	189 (12)	162 (1)	82 (5)
Prince George's	3	9	5	8	209 (7)	125 (15)	77 (7)
St. Mary's	6	6	6	17	192 (11)	142 (6)	80 (6)
Eighth Circuit							
Baltimore City	2	19	1	2	227 (3)	93 (22)	88 (2)

^aLower number indicates greater need for judgeship. (For example, a number one ranking of a predictive factor would indicate a higher amount of volume whereas a number one ranking of a performance factor would indicate a slower ability to handle workload.)

TABLE 7

COLLECTIVE RANKING OF JURISDICTIONS
BY BOTH PREDICTIVE AND PERFORMANCE FACTORS**
(FISCAL 1994)

Summary of Predictive Factors by Jurisdiction*		Summary of Performance Factors by Jurisdiction*	
1. Montgomery County	(7.25)	1. Frederick County	(3.0)
2. Anne Arundel County	(3.5)	2. Charles County	(6.0)
3. Baltimore City	(7.25)	3. Allegany County	(6.7)
4. Prince George's County	(9.0)	4. St. Mary's County	(7.7)
5. Carroll County	(9.75)	5. Calvert County	(8.3)
6. Howard County	(20.0)	6. Howard County	(8.3)
7. Harford County	(19.75)	7. Baltimore City	(9.0)
8. Cecil County	(27.0)	8. Anne Arundel County	(9.3)
9. Baltimore County	(9.5)	9. Harford County	(9.3)
10. St. Mary's County	(13.25)	10. Prince George's County	(9.7)
11. Frederick County	(26.25)	11. Cecil County	(10.3)
12. Charles County	(25.75)	12. Kent County	(11.0)
13. Somerset County	(22.5)	13. Washington County	(13.0)
14. Talbot County	(21.75)	14. Carroll County	(13.3)
15. Wicomico County	(22.25)	15. Montgomery County	(14.0)
16. Allegany County	(19.75)	16. Caroline County	(16.0)
17. Worcester County	(27.75)	17. Wicomico County	(16.7)
18. Calvert County	(30.25)	18. Talbot County	(17.0)
19. Caroline County	(35.75)	19. Worcester County	(17.0)
20. Queen Anne's County	(32.5)	20. Baltimore County	(17.3)
21. Washington County	(24.75)	21. Queen Anne's County	(17.7)
22. Dorchester County	(34.75)	22. Dorchester County	(17.7)
23. Kent County	(36.0)	23. Garrett County	(18.0)
24. Garrett County	(38.75)	24. Somerset County	(23.7)

*Collective ranking determine by assigning a weight of three to filing per judge, a weight of one to population per judge, a weight of two to pending cases per judge, and a weight of one to attorney/judge ratio.

*Collective ranking determined by assigning an equal weight (of one) to the filing to disposition times of criminal, civil, and juvenile cases.
(Inverted ranking to show longest times.)

**Lower number indicates greater need for judgeship; for example, a number one ranking of a predictive factor would indicate a higher amount of volume whereas a number one ranking of a performance factor would indicate a slower ability to handle workload. If a jurisdiction is listed near the top of both lists, then this shows that a relatively strong need exists for a judge based on the variables considered.

TABLE 8

PROJECTED NUMBER OF ESTIMATED NEED FOR ADDITIONAL JUDGES
IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS

	Projected Filings 1996 ^a	No. of Judges	No. of Masters and Other Judicial Officers ^b	Adjusted Number Judicial Officers	Average Projected No. of Filings Per Judicial Officer 1996	Judicial Officers by Standard ^c	Addtl. Judges Needed ^d
<u>First Circuit^a</u>							
Dorchester	2,051	1.5	0	1.5	1,367	1.7	0.2
Somerset	2,208	1	0	1.0	2,208	1.8	0.8
Wicomico	4,185	2.5	0	2.5	1,674	3.4	0.9
Worcester	2,983	2	0	2.0	1,492	2.4	0.4
Circuit Total	11,427	7.0	0.0	7.0	1,632	9.3	2.3
<u>Second Circuit</u>							
Caroline	1,381	1	0	1.0	1,381	1.1	0.1
Cecil	4,001	3	0	3.0	1,334	3.3	0.3
Kent	1,596	1	0	1.0	1,596	1.3	0.3
Queen Anne's	1,843	1	0	1.0	1,843	1.5	0.5
Talbot	1,897	1	0	1.0	1,897	1.5	0.5
Circuit Total	10,718	7.0	0.0	7.0	1,531	8.7	1.7
<u>Third Circuit</u>							
Baltimore	26,842	15	2.0	17.0	1,579	17.8	0.8
Harford	7,545	5	0.4	5.4	1,397	6.2	0.8
Circuit Total	34,387	20.0	2.4	22.4	1,535	24.0	1.6
<u>Fourth Circuit</u>							
Allegany	3,565	2	0.4	2.4	1,485	2.9	0.5
Garrett	1,485	1	0.3	1.3	1,142	1.3	0.0
Washington	6,100	4	0	4.0	1,525	5.0	1.0
Circuit Total	11,150	7.0	0.7	7.7	1,448	9.2	1.5
<u>Fifth Circuit</u>							
Anne Arundel	18,861	9	3.0	12.0	1,572	12.5	0.5
Carroll	6,672	3	1.2	4.2	1,589	5.5	1.3
Howard	8,762	5	2.0	7.0	1,252	7.3	0.3
Circuit Total	34,295	17.0	6.2	23.2	1,478	25.3	2.1
<u>Sixth Circuit</u>							
Frederick	5,441	4	0	4.0	1,360	4.5	0.5
Montgomery ^f	30,981	15	4.0	19.0	1,631	20.6	1.6
Circuit Total	36,422	19.0	4.0	23.0	1,584	25.1	2.1
<u>Seventh Circuit</u>							
Calvert	3,499	2	0.8	2.8	1,250	2.9	0.1
Charles	6,297	4	1.0	5.0	1,259	5.2	0.2
Prince George's	41,044	20	6.0	26.0	1,579	27.3	1.3
St. Mary's	4,511	2	0.6	2.6	1,735	3.7	1.1
Circuit Total	55,351	28.0	8.4	36.4	1,521	39.1	2.7
<u>Eighth Circuit</u>							
Baltimore City	54,460	26	11.0	37.0	1,472	37.0	0.0
Circuit Total	54,460	26	11.0	37.0	1,472	37.0	0.0

Table 8 footnotes

^aCircuit courts in both Harford and Montgomery Counties hear matters that would ordinarily be heard by the Orphans' Court. Accordingly, case filings were added to projections in each jurisdiction. Approximately 45 case filings were added to Harford County's projection and 297 case filings to Montgomery County's projection for Fiscal 1996.

^bPart-time juvenile masters in some jurisdictions are calculated as a percentage of a judicial officer because of the number of filings handled yearly by these individuals. Also included in the number of other judicial officers are retired judges who are recalled in some jurisdictions for settlement conferences in civil cases. Full-time and part-time domestic masters are included in this column but not masters who are compensated on a fee basis.

This column does not reflect the use of retired judges recalled to service because of unfilled judicial vacancies and illnesses of active judges to sit on the trial of cases for designated periods of time. In Fiscal 1994 a total of 704 judge days (including settlement conferences) were provided by retired circuit court judges.

Although efforts have been made to establish a weighted caseload statistical system, it has not been practicable to do so effectively. Obviously, in terms of time and complexity, some cases are many times more demanding than others. While each circuit court tends to have its share of these more difficult cases, some courts have experienced these cases in very substantial numbers; e.g., asbestos litigation which is handled primarily in Baltimore City for the entire state (approximately 8,500 pending cases, including a consolidated common issues case involving 2,000 plaintiffs). The trial of these cases takes in the extreme sometimes 8-12 weeks. The same rationale is applicable in death penalty cases.

Increases in the number of projected filings is due in large part to the influx of criminal cases transferred to the circuit courts from the District Court where the defendant is entitled to and demands a jury trial. Less than 2 percent of these cases (total filings of 23,707 in Fiscal 1994) actually results in jury trials; most are disposed of by plea negotiation between the prosecution and defense rather than by actual trial.

^cThe scale utilized for this column in Fiscal 1996 is as follows: 1200 filings - 1 to 8 judicial officers and 1500 filings - 9 or more judicial officers.

^dA need for additional judgeships is shown by a number without parentheses, whereas, a surplus in judgeships is shown by a number in parentheses.

^eSection 1-503 of the Courts Article authorizes one (1) judge in Dorchester County and three (3) judges in Wicomico County; however, those two counties share one judge equally; thus, making the actual allocation of judges 1.5 in Dorchester County and 2.5 in Wicomico County.

^fMontgomery County for Fiscal Year 1994 reported 7,313 liens as other law civil filings.

BILL ORDER

(ib) AN ACT concerning

Judgeships - Circuit Court - Montgomery County

for the purpose of increasing the number of judges authorized for the Circuit Court for Montgomery County; and providing for the effective date of this Act.

(rr) BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 1-503(a)(15)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

-----Circle as appropriate-----
(aed) July 1 effective date

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

1-503.

(a) In each county in the first seven judicial circuits there shall be the number of resident judges of the circuit court set forth below, including the judge or judges provided for by the Constitution:

(15) Montgomery [15] 16